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DIRECTORATE OF  
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# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

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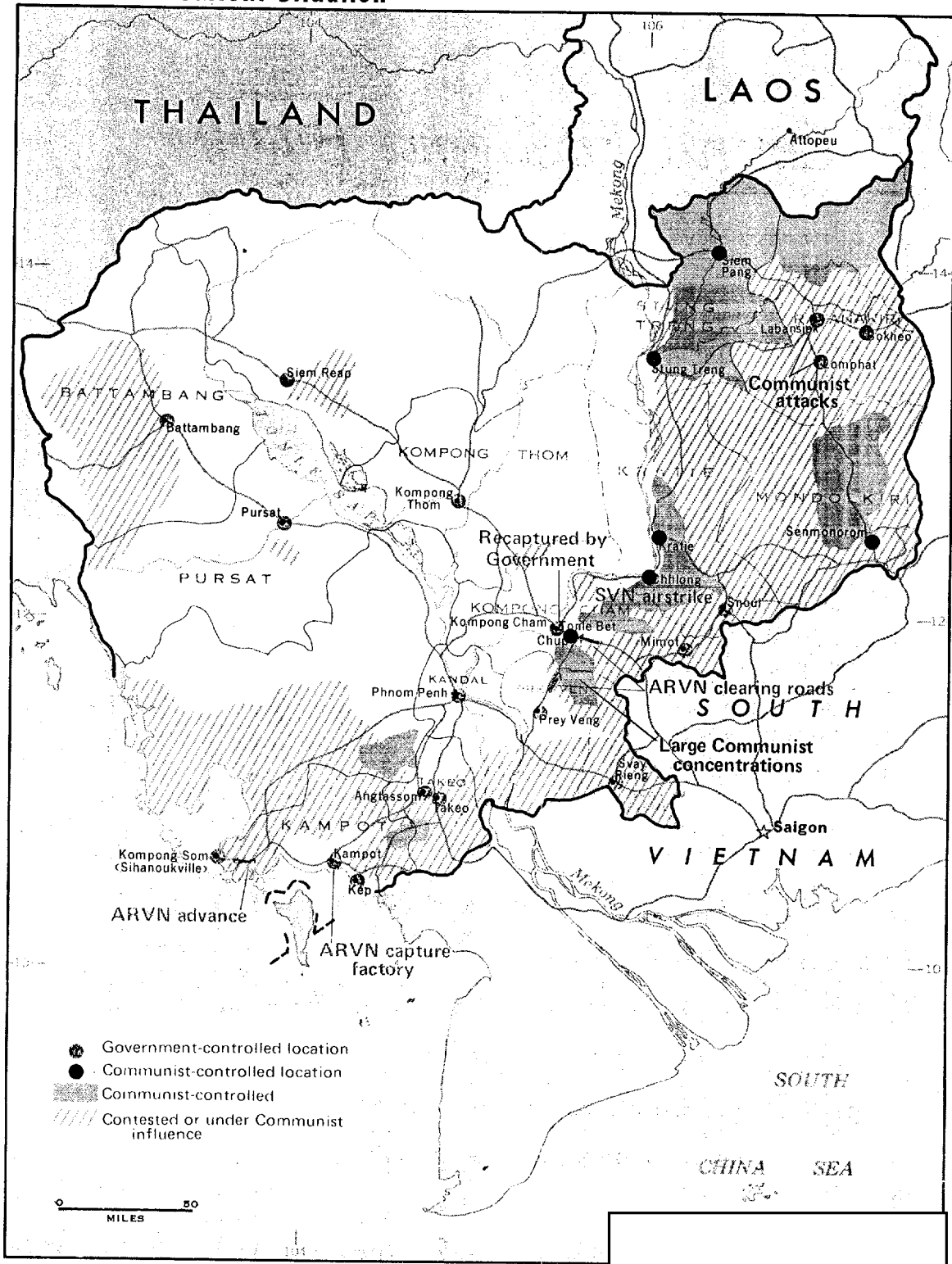
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## Cambodia: Current Situation



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Cambodia: Allied military operations are reducing Communist pressure in several areas of the country.

East: South Vietnamese Army troops, in their deepest deployment into Cambodia to date, continue to clear main roads in Kompong Cham Province, and also are on the southern edge of the country's major rubber plantation at Chup, where they hope to engage elements of the 272nd Viet Cong Regiment. The US Embassy in Phnom Penh reports that an apparently uncoordinated South Vietnamese air strike on 23 May on the plantation may have caused the loss of almost half of Cambodia's rubber production, and will also probably result in the unemployment of 5,000 workers. West of Chup, Khmer Krom troops reportedly have overcome stiff enemy resistance and recaptured the town of Tonle Bet.

Northeast: In Ratanakiri Province, the Communists again attacked the capital, Lomphat, on 23 May, but few details are available. Farther north, government defenders at the Labansiek regional command post beat off an attack by an enemy force of unknown size on 23-24 May. Labansiek, Lomphat, and Bokheo have been under continual Communist pressure in recent weeks.

South: Allied sweep operations have reduced enemy attacks in this area, but large enemy troop concentrations are reported east and northeast of the capital in Prey Veng Province. Journalists traveling from the town of Takeo to Phnom Penh report that they were stopped by Communist troops twice yesterday, but were allowed to proceed. On the coast, press reports claim South Vietnamese forces have pushed close to the port of Kompong Som (Sihanoukville), and have captured a cement factory near Kampot.

West: No significant actions were reported during the weekend in Kompong Thom Province, where some Communist troops recently were seen moving west toward the capital.

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South Vietnam: Communist forces that normally operate in one region just west of Saigon have been severely disrupted by recent allied operations into Cambodia.

These forces have relied heavily upon the security of large base areas in the so-called Parrot's Beak, 30 miles west of the capital. Allied operations into this long-time enemy redoubt have uncovered large amounts of rice and ordnance, and nearly 3,200 Communists have been killed, according to field reports.

Prisoners captured in Communist Sub-Region 2 (SR-2), which consists of most of Hau Nghia and northern Long An provinces, have reported that despite some forewarning of allied attacks, there was not enough time for effective countermeasures or for an orderly withdrawal. A Viet Cong defector, for example, stated that following an air strike his company scattered and fled. Another defector claimed that several other units, including the SR-2 headquarters--at that time located in Cambodia--were largely destroyed by the initial South Vietnamese thrust across the border on 29 April.

These losses are unlikely to be made up quickly, and they almost certainly will put a crimp in Communist plans to harass allied units and to counter pacification efforts in the area west of Saigon.

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Cyprus: The government has reacted swiftly to the latest upsurge in violence within the Greek Cypriot community.

More than 30 persons who allegedly took part in a raid against a Limassol police station in the early hours of 23 May have been arrested, and warrants are out for several more. Among those arrested were several members of the police and an army sergeant, all Greek Cypriots. Documents implicating others were reportedly seized, and some of the weapons stolen in the raid have been recovered.

During the attack on the police station the raiders, who were masked, identified themselves as members of the National Front, an underground, anti-Communist group favoring union with Greece. This organization is considered responsible for earlier acts of antigovernment terrorism. Documents captured after the incident indicate that this action, along with the kidnaping of two apparently rival National Front figures, was intended to be part of a larger campaign designed to paralyze the government.

The Turkish Cypriot community remains uninvolved in the squabbles among the militant Greek Cypriot factions, which appear to be tied in with the parliamentary elections scheduled for the Greek Cypriot community on 3 July. Despite the government's apparently effective response to the most recent incident, the potential for renewed violence remains high as rival Greek Cypriot militant groups settle old scores. [REDACTED]

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Belgium: Prime Minister Eyskens is indulging in a new round of efforts to reconcile conflicting Walloon and Flemish interests.

Seeking some show of progress before parliament adjourns at the end of June, Eyskens last week cleared the way for enactment of long-stalled economic decentralization measures. He agreed to introduce simultaneously a bill defining the geographic scope of future regional economic councils. This bill would ensure that Brussels' suburban districts remain under Flemish jurisdiction despite Walloon majorities in many of them. The bill is a concession to the Flemish wing of Eyskens' own Social Christian Party, which has been under pressure to guarantee Flemish control.

Not unexpectedly, however, the party's Walloon wing demands as its price for supporting these measures that parliament also pass two controversial constitutional amendments. They would provide various guarantees for Belgium's Walloon minority community and would divide ministerial portfolios equally between the two groups. Eyskens' coalition apparently has enough votes to pass his bills, but not the two-thirds support necessary for constitutional revision.

Eyskens has threatened to resign if his bills are not passed. While this cannot be ruled out, he did not step down when similar threats in the past failed to obtain their objectives. More ominous is the stance of his Walloon colleagues who have vowed to leave the coalition if their proposals fail. Eyskens will probably bend all his efforts in the next few weeks to dissuade them from such action.

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OAS: Several Latin American foreign ministers are becoming apprehensive about convening the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in the Dominican Republic next month.

OAS Secretary General Galo Plaza has indicated that ministers from nine countries have already expressed serious concern about going to Santo Domingo, but says they are unwilling to initiate any action to change the assembly site.

Dominican opposition leader Juan Bosch has complicated matters by voicing strong opposition to the assembly and alluding to possible demonstrations in a campaign to discredit President Balaguer. Minor opposition groups have joined in opposition to holding the meeting in Santo Domingo and student and labor groups have called for demonstrations against it. Bosch has utilized reports that many Dominicans have been seeking political asylum to reinforce his contention that a suitable climate for the assembly does not exist. By Saturday, some 60 to 70 persons had sought asylum; this may be part of a contrived effort to embarrass the government. [REDACTED]

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Israel-Lebanon: The Lebanese Government remains apprehensive over expected Israeli military action. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A spokesman for the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday, however, that there was no "build-up" on the border, although there had been some reinforcement as a result of the recent incidents. Nevertheless, it is highly unlikely that the shelling of the Lebanese villages will constitute Israel's sole response to Friday's fedayeen attack on the Israeli school bus. Additional Israeli retaliation, rather than inducing the Lebanese to crack down on the fedayeen, will only tend to erode further the government's ability to oppose the fedayeen.

[REDACTED]

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Pakistan: The government wants half of the one million tons of PL-480 wheat requested from the US for East Pakistan in fiscal 1971 to be a gift. The revenue raised by selling the grain would be used for rural development there. Rawalpindi plans to meet the remaining one-million-ton foodgrain shortfall in East Pakistan by increased shipments from West Pakistan and from other international sources. The agricultural breakthrough in West Pakistan in 1968, based primarily on miracle wheat seeds, shifted that region into a food surplus area. In East Pakistan, however, food production has stagnated while the population continues to increase rapidly. [REDACTED]

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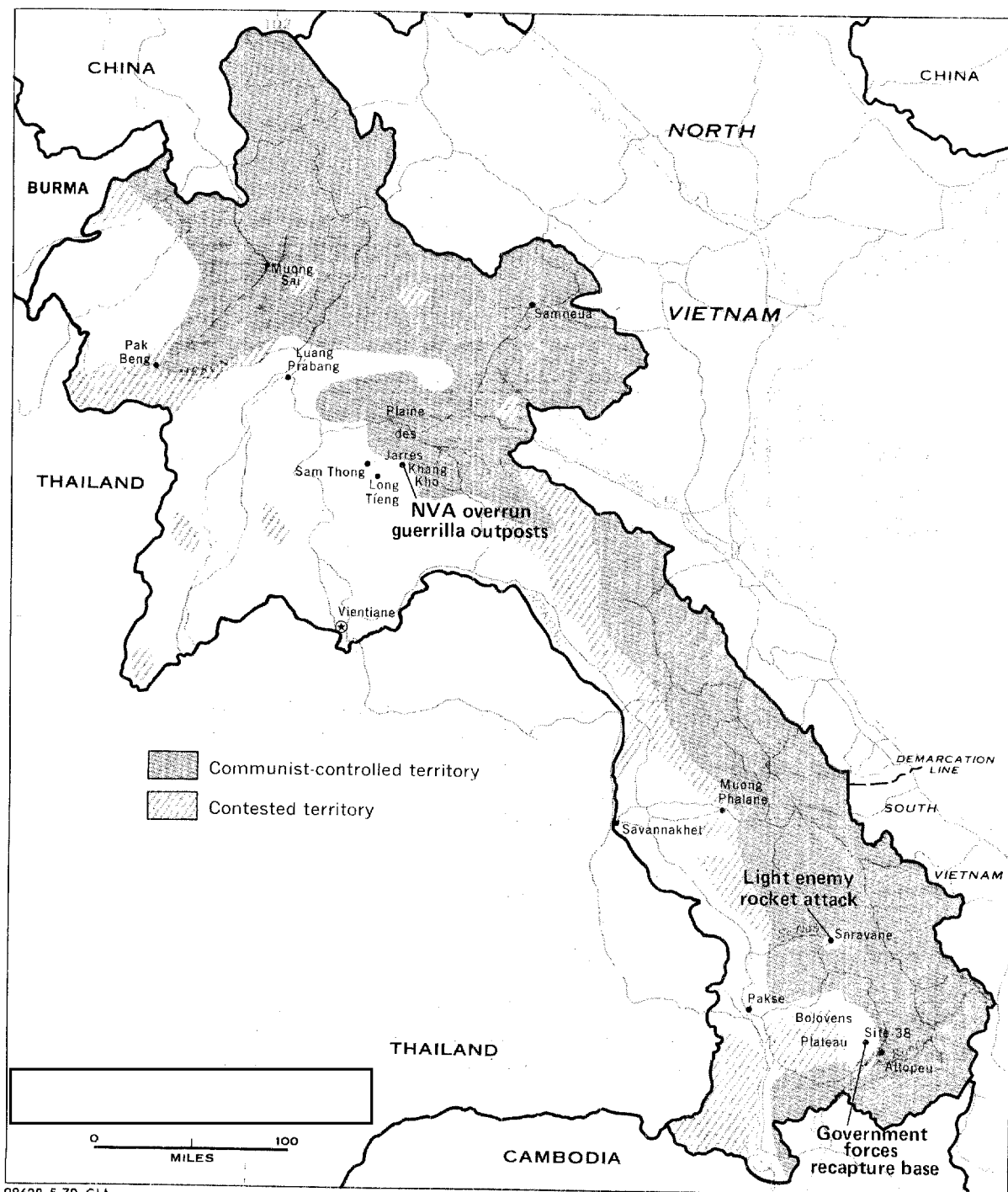
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## Laos: Current Situation



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Laos: Three companies of Laotian irregulars this weekend recaptured Site 38, an important government guerrilla base on the southeastern rim of the Bolovens Plateau that had been abandoned to Communist forces two weeks ago. Heavy air strikes preceded the final assault, and little enemy resistance was encountered. Elsewhere in the south, the provincial capital of Saravane--which reportedly continues to be menaced by several enemy battalions--came under a light rocket attack. No casualties or damage were reported, however, and no ground fighting developed in the area. The tactical situation around Vang Pao's headquarters in northern Laos remained relatively quiet, although North Vietnamese forces overran the remaining guerrilla outposts near Khang Kho, thus diminishing the government's threat to enemy positions immediately south of the Plaine des Jarres. [REDACTED]

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Argentina: Student disorders in Rosario and Cordoba late last week were effectively contained by police, but the prospect of labor involvement could spell greater trouble this week. The violent demonstrations last Thursday and Friday, which grew out of activities commemorating last year's bloody riots, were put down by police using tear gas and water cannon and resulted in several hundred student arrests. One labor group in Cordoba has declared this to be a "week of resistance" to culminate in an "active strike" on 29 May. If other labor groups join the movement, it could result in a replay of last year's serious disturbances that occurred when students and labor joined forces. [REDACTED]

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Costa Rica: The new director general for public security, Colonel Herrera Pinto, plans to request an additional 1,000 men for the Civil Guard because he is concerned about increasing Communist activity and crime in general. The Guard, Costa Rica's only security force, now has 2,055 men. It has had to cope with a number of illegal strikes, guerrillas along the Panamanian border, mass demonstrations, and terrorist assaults over the past two years. Herrera Pinto believes the Guard is severely understrength and wants to place agents at the university because political extremism is on the rise. Herrera expects some difficulty with the legislature, which is prone to reflect the general Costa Rican anti-military attitude, but feels that President Figueres and the minister of public security will back his request for additional personnel.

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